REMARKS

Reconsideration is requested.

Claims 3-9 and 14-41 have been canceled, without prejudice. Claims 1-2, 10-13 and 42 are pending. Claim 42 has been added and finds support, for example, in the disclosure of originally-filed claim 13. No new matter has been added.

Attached is a copy of the English language specification filed May 28, 2002 in Serial No. 09/969,037. A copy of the Declaration of Mr. Eiichi Kobayashi relating to the translation was filed in Serial No. 09/969,037.

A certified copy of the Japanese priority application is attached.

Acknowledgement of receipt of the same is requested in the Examiner's first Communication.

An English language translation of the U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/263,512, was filed May 27, 2003, in the parent application Serial No. 09/969,027. Acknowledgement of receipt of the same in the Examiner's first Communication is requested.

The specification has been amended to include a paper copy of the Sequence Listing filed August 30, 2002 in the parent application Serial No. 09/969,037. The attached paper copy of the Sequence Listing is the same as the paper and computer readable copies of the Sequence Listing filed August 30, 2002 in the parent application Serial No. 09/969,037. The Patent Office is requested to use the computer readable copy of the Sequence Listing field August 30, 2002 in the parent application Serial No. 09/969,037, for the present application. No new matter has been added. A separate Statement and Request in this regard is attached.

SHIBUYA, et al. Appl. No. Unassigned Div. of SN 09/969,037 January 26, 2004

Return of an initialed copy of the attached PTO 1449 Form, which lists art of record in the parent application Serial No. 09/969,027, is requested, pursuant to MPEP § 609. Further copies of the cited art are not believe to be required however the Examiner is requested to advise the undersigned if otherwise.

A copy of the two page Declaration from the parent application is attached.

The claims have been amended above to advance prosecution and pursue the subject matter of the Examiner's Group I, as defined in the Office Action of December 16, 2002. An early and favorable Action on the merits of the claimed invention is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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